

FLD 19#5

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

- 25X1 1. The Bulgarian Ministry of Defense includes a military health (Voenna Meditsina) department, located at 7 Levski Street in Sofia. It consists of a cadre department controlling all regular military physicians and civilian doctors working for the Army, and a dentistry department which is headed by a major. The department controls directly all military medical organizations.
- 25X1 2. Every military unit from company (Druzhina) on up has one general physician and a medical assistant. In some units the position of physician is occupied by a medical technician who has attended one of the special three-year medical courses established in Bulgaria in 1949. General physicians start their service in the Army with the rank of senior lieutenant, and can be promoted to the highest ranks, but captain is the maximum rank which can be reached by a medical technician.
- 25X1 3. A soldier in need of medical care applies to his unit physician. In serious cases, he is sent to a special military dispensary known as a "Filter" Station where medical specialists are available. There is one such station for each group of units. There are three "Filters" in Sofia.
4. There are five or six military hospitals in Bulgaria, one for each Army district. The largest is the Central Military Hospital outside Sofia, at the Lagera station of streetcar No. 5, on the road to Knyashevo (N 42-40, E 23-14). A large store of medical equipment is maintained in the depots of this hospital for use in emergency. The hospital has 500 beds and includes the following departments:
  - a. Surgery, with four sections;
  - b. Internal diseases, with three sections;
  - c. X-ray, with one section;

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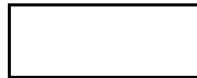
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- d. Skin diseases, with one section;
  - e. Ear, nose and throat, with one section;
  - f. Tuberculosis, with one section;
  - g. Physiotherapy, with one section;
  - h. Laboratory, with modern equipment and employing two doctors and 13 laboratory assistants; and
  - i. A Pharmacy.
5. A dispensary is attached to the military hospital in Sofia which, in addition to departments similar to those of the hospital itself, has a section each for pediatrics and gynecology. It has a staff of 35 doctors, including two or three civilian physicians. It is open in the mornings to soldiers in need of special treatment and to officers stationed in the Sofia district. In the afternoons, treatment is given to families of officers and to civilians working for the Army, by civilian doctors responsible to the Ministry of Health. As a result of the new working hour regulations in which civilian physicians must work eight hours a day instead of six, preparations have been made for the clinic to treat soldiers and officers only. There families, therefore, will have to go to the civilian district clinic.
  6. Soldiers receive treatment when a permit is presented from their unit doctor, and a military uniform is sufficient identification for officers. Medical treatment is free. Privates also receive medicines free, while higher ranks must pay for these, either at the clinic's pharmacy, or from the medical assistance. Officers pay for medicines, which they can obtain in any pharmacy with a doctor's prescription. At the military pharmacies, there is no shortage of medicines with the exception of penicillin and streptomycin, which can be obtained only with a prescription signed by the physician giving treatment and countersigned by the head of the clinic. All the medicines are supplied by a central military depot for medical instruments and pharmaceuticals, which informant believes may be located at Turnovo.
  7. There is a military medical institute (Voenna Khigiena Institut) located at Sofia.
  8. In 1950, new military books were issued as a result of a general reregistration of soldiers in the reserves. In addition to the serial number, they include another secret figure which probably represents the number of the unit in which the bearer will serve in time of war. Doctors and officers have identical books, with a red cover followed by six pages. The sign G G S means that the bearer is attached to a fighting unit.
  9. There are working norms for physicians, who receive a certain number of points for every treatment given, which should reach a monthly total of 500. This is very rarely achieved, particularly at the Central Clinic where only serious cases are sent. A record is made of physicians who fail to reach the regular norm, but no steps are taken against them.
  10. A military doctor receives extra ration coupons and a higher salary than a civilian doctor, but only Party members are admitted to a military course at which a military rank is granted to physicians. Doctors, including military physicians, are allowed to practice privately after working hours.

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11. Military dispensaries have no contact with the dispensaries of the Ministry of Interior, but have a separate medical service and hospitals. There is no cooperation between the two organizations.

12. Informant knew of the following medical officers:

- a. Colonel ANGELOV, head of the Military Hospital in Sofia, a surgeon,  
[redacted] 25X1
- b. Colonel Herzl ASTRUK, responsible for the Political Section of the  
Military Medical Department, a general physician [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1
- c. General Ivanov IVANOV, head of the Voenna Meditsina Otdel [redacted] 25X1  
an internal disease specialist [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1
- d. Major Kiril KIROV, head of the Dentistry Department, a dentist.  
studies in Germany [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1
- e. Colonel Rayko RADEVSKI, head of the clinic attached to the Central  
Military Hospital, an X-ray specialist [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] 25X1

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